

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: SAKATA

Examiner: SIMPSON, S.

Serial No.: 10/549655

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: September 16, 2005

Docket: 10921.354USWO

Title: PUNCTURE DEVICE

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by EFS Web to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 18 AUGUST 2009.

By:

Name: Heidi McCarty

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form SB08 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of any foreign patent documents or "Other Documents" are enclosed.

Applicants respectfully bring to the Examiner's attention that the references listed on the enclosed Form SB08 were cited in Office Action received in the corresponding Japanese patent application. A copy of the Office Action, which has a mailing date of 11 August 2009, is enclosed herewith.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

US 5,891,053 corresponds to JP 8-317917. US 6,391,005 corresponds to JP 11-309124.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- (1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or
- (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and
 - the requisite Statement is below, OR
 - the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or

- (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND the requisite Statement is below AND the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

STATEMENT

Applicants hereby state that:

- Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application or by the USPTO in a related application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement
- If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form SB08 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.

Filing Date

Group

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

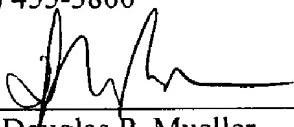
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form SB08, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

FEE AUTHORIZATION

Please charge any required fee or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478.

Respectfully submitted,

HAMRE, SCHUMANN, MUELLER &
LARSON, P.C.
P.O. Box 2902
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0902
(612) 455-3800

By: 
Douglas P. Mueller
Reg. No. 30,300

Dated: 18 August 2009

DPM:hjm